

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 52  
June 7  
p. 509

To his excellency Horatio Sharpe esquire governor and commander in chief in and over the province of Maryland.

The humble address of the house of delegates.

May it please your excellency

In answer to your excellency's message of Monday last, we are of opinion that the offer of a reward for apprehending Negroes, who are well known, and charged with felony, may probably in its consequences, induce a very heavy expence on the public and tend to lessen the activity and spirit with which they have been generally pursued, unless extraordinary rewards should be almost as constantly offered as crimes committed. It seems, from your excellency's Message, that negroes Phil and Daniel, are probably countenanced by white people, and thereby, if at all, will escape the public justice; from thence we are apprehensive, that an exertion of the magistrates power, may most effectually obviate Schemes so prejudicial to the community. Which is read and ordered to lie on the table

John Ridout esquire from the upper house, delivers to M.<sup>r</sup> speaker, the petition of the visitors of Kent County free school; the petition of captain Pearis; and the petition of Samuel Cookson; which were severally indorsed: June 17.<sup>th</sup> 1768: Read and referred to the consideration of the lower house of Assembly.

Sign'd by order U. Scott clk up: ho:

Which petitions are severally read here and ordered to lie on the table.

The house adjourns til to morrow morning 9 o'clock

June 8

Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 1768.

The house met according to adjournment. The members were called and all appeared as on yesterday.

The proceedings of yesterday were read. M.<sup>r</sup> M Tilghman appeared in the house.

On motion, leave given to withdraw the petition of the inhabitants of Cæcil County, preferred to this house and rejected.

The order of the day being read, the house took into consideration the letter from the speaker of the house of representatives of the Massachusetts Bay; and M.<sup>r</sup> speaker is requested to write a respectful answer in the name of the house, to the same.

On reading the late acts of parliament imposing duties on the colonies for the sole purpose of raising a revenue; Unanimously Resolved, that a loyal, dutiful, and humble petition be prepared to be presented to his Majesty, on the subject matter thereof: Ordered that M.<sup>r</sup> Murdock, M.<sup>r</sup> Johnson, M.<sup>r</sup> Ringgold, M.<sup>r</sup> Hall,